	Division of Environmental Health and Communicable Disease Prevention	
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## Coccidioidomycosis

(Valley fever, San Joaquin fever, Desert fever, and Desert rheumatism)

### **Overview**<sup>(1,2)</sup>

For a complete description of coccidioidomycosis, refer to the following texts:

- Control of Communicable Diseases Manual (CCDM).
- Red Book, Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases.

### **Case Definition**<sup>(3)</sup>

#### *Clinical description*

Infection may be asymptomatic or may produce an acute or chronic disease. Although the disease initially resembles an influenza-like febrile illness primarily involving the bronchopulmonary system, dissemination can occur to multiple organ systems.

#### *Clinical case definition*

An illness characterized by one or more of the following:


- Influenza-like signs and symptoms (e.g., fever, chest pain, cough, myalgia, arthralgia, and headache)
- Pneumonia or other pulmonary lesion, diagnosed by chest radiograph
- Erythema nodosum or erythema multiforme rash
- Involvement of bones, joints, or skin by dissemination
- Meningitis
- Involvement of viscera and lymph nodes

#### *Laboratory criteria for diagnosis*

- Cultural, histopathologic, or molecular evidence of presence of *Coccidioides immitis*, or
- Positive serologic test for coccidioidal antibodies in serum or cerebrospinal fluid by:
  1. Detection of coccidioidal immunoglobulin M (IgM) by immunodiffusion, enzyme immunoassay (EIA), latex agglutination, or tube precipitin, or
  2. Detection of rising titer of coccidioidal immunoglobulin G (IgG) by immunodiffusion, EIA, or complement fixation, or
- Coccidioidal skin-test conversion from negative to positive after onset of clinical signs and symptoms

#### *Case classification*

*Confirmed:* a case that meets the clinical case definition and is laboratory confirmed

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### **Information Needed for Investigation**

**Verify the diagnosis.** List laboratory results as noted above.

**Establish the extent of illness.** This disease is not transmitted person to person.

### **Case/Contact Follow Up And Control Measures**

- Obtain travel history for the past 30 days and record in the “Other Pertinent Epidemiological Data” on the CD-2 report form.

#### **Control Measures**

See the Coccidioidomycosis section of the Control of Communicable Disease Manual (CCDM), “Control of patient, contacts and the immediate environment”.

See the Coccidioidomycosis section of the Red Book.

### **Laboratory Procedures**


#### **Specimens:**

Contact the Regional Communicable Disease Coordinator. The Missouri State Public Health Laboratory does not culture for *Coccidioidomycosis*.

### **Reporting Requirements**

Coccidioidomycosis is a Category II disease and shall be reported to the local health authority or to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) within three days of first knowledge or suspicion by telephone, facsimile or other rapid communication.

1. For confirmed and probable cases, complete a “Disease Case Report” (CD-1) and a “Record of Investigation of Communicable Disease” (CD-2).
2. Entry of the completed CD-1 into MOHSIS negates the need for the paper CD-1 to be forwarded to the Regional Health Office.
3. Send the completed secondary investigation form (CD-2) to the Regional Health Office.
4. All outbreaks or "suspected" outbreaks must be reported as soon as possible (by phone, fax or e-mail) to the Regional Communicable Disease Coordinator. This can be accomplished by completing the Missouri Outbreak Surveillance Report (CD-51).
5. Within 90 days of the conclusion of an outbreak, submit the final outbreak report to the Regional Communicable Disease Coordinator.

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## **References**

1. Chin, James, ed. "Coccidioidomycosis (Valley fever, San Joaquin fever, Desert fever, Desert rheumatism, Coccidioidal granuloma)." Control of Communicable Diseases Manual. 17<sup>th</sup> ed. Washington, DC: American Public Health Association, 2000: 117-119.
2. American Academy of Pediatrics. "Coccidioidomycosis." In: Peter G, Ed. 1997 Red Book: Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases. 24<sup>th</sup> Ed. Elk Grove Village, IL. 1997: 181-183.
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Case Definitions for Infectious Conditions Under Public Health Surveillance. MMWR 1997;46 (No. RR-10): 10-11.
4. Stevens, David A. "*Coccidioides Immitis*." Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Eds. Gerald L. Mandell, John E. Bennett, and Raphael Dolin. New York: Churchill Livingstone, 1995: 2289, 2365-2375.

## **Other Sources of Information**

1. Bronnimann, D.A., et al. Coccidioidomycosis in the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome. *Ann Int Med* 106(3): 372-379, 1987.
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. USPHS/IDSA Guidelines for the Prevention of Opportunistic Infections in Persons Infected with Human Immunodeficiency Virus. MMWR 44:1-24, 1995.
3. Fish, D.G., et al. Coccidioidomycosis during human immunodeficiency virus infection. *Medicine* 69(6): 384-391, 1990.
4. Galgiani, J.N., et al. Fluconazole therapy for coccidioidal meningitis, *Ann Int Med* 119(1): 28-35, 1993.
5. Galgiani, J.N., et al. Coccidioidomycosis in human immunodeficiency virus-infected patients. *J Infect Dis* 162(5): 1165-1169, 1990.
6. Hostetler, J.S., et al. Coccidioidal infections with amphotericin B colloidal dispersion (Amphocil or ABCD). 32nd ICAAC, abstract 628: 215, 1992.

## **Web Sites**

1. The University of Arizona/Arizona Research Laboratories - Valley Fever (Coccidioidomycosis) <http://www.arl.arizona.edu/vfce/index.html> (4 June 2003).
2. University of California at Irvine - Coccidioidomycosis <http://emedicine.com/EMERG/topic103.htm> (4 June 2003).

# **Coccidioidomycosis**

Valley fever, San Joaquin fever, Desert fever, and Desert rheumatism  
FACT SHEET

## **What is Coccidioidomycosis?**

A disease caused by breathing in a fungus found in the soil in certain parts of the southwestern U.S., Mexico, and Central and South America.

## **What causes this disease?**

Infection is caused by breathing in spores of a fungus found in desert regions.

## **What is the incubation period for this disease?**

The incubation period is 10 to 30 days.

## **What are the symptoms?**

Cough, chest pain (varies from mild sense of constriction to severe), fever, fatigue, headache, joint aches, and rash. Occasionally painful red bumps appear on lower legs. These bumps gradually turn brown.

## **How serious is this disease?**

About 60% of infections cause no symptoms and are only recognized by a positive skin test. In the remaining 40%, symptoms range from mild to severe. Dark-skinned people and people with a weak immune system often have more serious infections. The acute form can develop into widespread disseminated disease or into a chronic pulmonary (lung) disease after a long latent period. Occasionally, the disease can spread throughout the body or develop into chronic lung disease after a period of no symptoms.

## **How can I avoid exposure to the fungus that causes this disease?**

Avoiding travel to regions where this fungus is found will prevent risk of developing this disease. Serious illness from this infection is rare, so prevention is usually not a concern except for immunocompromised people. In the southwestern U.S., it is estimated that 100,000 new infections occur each year.

## **How does the physician test for this disease?**

Sputum smear, sputum culture, blood tests, skin tests, or chest X-rays may aid the physician in the diagnosis.

## **What is the treatment for this disease?**

The disease is almost always benign and goes away without treatment. Bed rest and treatment of symptoms until fever disappears may be recommended.

**Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services  
Section for Communicable Disease Prevention  
Phone: (573) 751-6113 or (866) 628-9891**



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
**DISEASE CASE REPORT**

REPORT TO LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY

(INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE)

DATE RECEIVED BY LOCAL HEALTH AGENCY

**A. CASE IDENTIFICATION (ALL DISEASES)**

NAME (LAST, FIRST, M.I.)		DATE OF BIRTH (MO/DAY/YR)	AGE	TELEPHONE NUMBER ( )
ADDRESS (STREET OR RFD, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE)			MEDICAL RECORD NUMBER	GENDER <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F
COUNTY OF RESIDENCE	PATIENT DIED OF THIS ILLNESS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		PARENT OR GUARDIAN IF A MINOR	
PATIENT EMPLOYED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	SCHOOL/DAY CARE/WORKPLACE AND OCCUPATION			ETHNIC ORIGIN <input type="checkbox"/> HISPANIC <input type="checkbox"/> NOT HISPANIC
RACE <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER <input type="checkbox"/> MIXED <input type="checkbox"/> WHITE <input type="checkbox"/> AMERICAN INDIAN <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____		PATIENT'S COUNTRY OF ORIGIN		DATE ARRIVED IN U.S.A.
WAS PATIENT HOSPITALIZED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	ARRIVED BY AMBULANCE? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	OTHER CASES? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN		
RESIDE IN NURSING HOME? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	NOSOCOMIAL INFECTION? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			
NAME OF HOSPITAL/NURSING HOME		ADDRESS		

**B. PERSON OR AGENCY REPORTING**

NAME		DATE OF REPORT (MO/DAY/YR)	TELEPHONE NUMBER ( )
ADDRESS		<input type="checkbox"/> PHYSICIAN <input type="checkbox"/> OUTPATIENT CLINIC <input type="checkbox"/> LABORATORY <input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITAL <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC HEALTH CLINIC <input type="checkbox"/> SCHOOL	
ATTENDING PHYSICIAN NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER ( )	

**C. DISEASE**

DISEASE	PLEASE INCLUDE CONFIRMATORY LABORATORY DATA (ATTACH COPY IF AVAILABLE)		
	DATES	TYPE OF TEST	RESULT
			LAB NAME/LOCATION
DATE OF ONSET (MO/DAY/YR)	DATE OF DIAGNOSIS (MO/DAY/YR)	LEAD <input type="checkbox"/> VENOUS <input type="checkbox"/> CAP	COMMENTS

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE APPROPRIATE SECTION FOR THE DISEASE BEING REPORTED**

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES	<b>D. SYPHILIS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>GONORRHEA</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>CHLAMYDIA</b> (CHECK ABOVE BOXES AS APPROPRIATE)	DATE	TEST	RESULTS	HAS PATIENT BEEN TREATED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIMARY (CHANCER PRESENT) <input type="checkbox"/> SECONDARY (SKIN LESIONS, RASH, ETC.) <input type="checkbox"/> EARLY LATENT (ASYMPTOMATIC, LESS THAN 1 YEAR) <input type="checkbox"/> LATE LATENT (OVER 1 YEAR DURATION) <input type="checkbox"/> NEUROSYPHILIS <input type="checkbox"/> CARDIOVASCULAR <input type="checkbox"/> CONGENITAL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	<input type="checkbox"/> ASYMPTOMATIC <input type="checkbox"/> UNCOMPLICATED UROGENITAL (URETHRITIS, CERVICITIS) <input type="checkbox"/> SALPINGITIS (PID) <input type="checkbox"/> OPHTHALMIA/CONJUNCTIVITIS <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (ARTHRITIS, SKIN LESIONS, ETC.)				DATE(S) OF TREATMENT
			TREATMENT NOT INDICATED BECAUSE: <input type="checkbox"/> PREVIOUS ADEQ. TREATMENT <input type="checkbox"/> FALSE POSITIVE DATE OF PREVIOUS TREATMENT: _____ PREV. DISEASE/STAGE _____ PLACE: _____			TYPE AND AMOUNT OF TREATMENT

ENTERIC DISEASES OR HEPATITIS	<b>E. ENTERIC AND PARASITIC DISEASES AND HEPATITIS A</b>		TREATMENT	<b>F. HEPATITIS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> PRENATAL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER			
	CHECK BELOW IF PATIENT OR MEMBER OF PATIENT'S HOUSEHOLD (HHLD):	PATIENT YES NO UNK	HHLD MEMBER YES NO UNK	DRUG	(CHECK ALL TESTS PERFORMED)		
	IS A FOOD HANDLER			DOSAGE	JAUNDICED: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	TEST	POS NEG
	ATTENDS OR WORKS AT A DAY CARE CENTER				JAUNDICE ONSET DATE: _____	HAV-IgM	
	IS A HEALTH CARE WORKER			<input type="checkbox"/> NO TREATMENT	CARRIER? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	HBsAg	
					ALT	HBsAb	
					AST	HBcAb	
						Hep C	

TUBERCULOSIS	<b>G. <input type="checkbox"/> DISEASE OR <input type="checkbox"/> INFECTION</b>	X-RAY <input type="checkbox"/> NORMAL (DATE) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> ABNORMAL (DATE) _____	BACTERIOLOGY	TREATMENT	DOSAGE
	TUBERCULIN TEST (DATE)	(CHECK ONE) <input type="checkbox"/> STABLE <input type="checkbox"/> CAVITARY <input type="checkbox"/> WORSENING <input type="checkbox"/> NONCAVITARY <input type="checkbox"/> IMPROVING <input type="checkbox"/> NOT DONE <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN	TYPE OF SPECIMEN	<input type="checkbox"/> ISONIAZID	
	RESULTS (MM INDURATION)		SMEAR (DATE) _____ POS NEG PEND-ING <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> ETHAMBUTOL	
	TYPE OF TEST (CHECK ONE) <input type="checkbox"/> MANTOUX (5TU-PPD) <input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE PUNCTURE DEVICE <input type="checkbox"/> NOT DONE	PREVIOUS TB DISEASE <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNK	CULTURE (DATE) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> REPORT DATE <input type="checkbox"/> NOT STATED OR UNKNOWN <input type="checkbox"/> NOT DONE IF CULTURE POSITIVE: <input type="checkbox"/> M. TUBERCULOSIS <input type="checkbox"/> ATYPICAL MYCOBACTERIA (SPECIFY) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> PYRAZINAMIDE	
				<input type="checkbox"/> RIFAMPIN	
				<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____	
				DATE TREATMENT STARTED	

# MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DISEASE CASE REPORT

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ or 1/800-392-0272

For Consultation or Information

All diseases listed below are to be reported promptly to the **local public health agency** or the Missouri Department of Health. **The diseases printed in boldface below must be reported immediately by telephone or fax.** Any enteric disease or hepatitis A in a foodhandler, health care worker, day care or correctional facility must be reported immediately by telephone. Other diseases/conditions should be reported within 3 days of first knowledge or suspicion.

**Follow-up epidemiologic information may be requested by local or state public health officials.**

(Legal authorization: RSMo 192.006 and 192.020; 19 CSR 20-20.020 and 19 CSR 20-080; local statutes and ordinances).

## REPORTABLE DISEASES IN MISSOURI

**Outbreaks: suspected outbreaks of reportable diseases, other acute or occupationally-related diseases or conditions**

### AIDS/HIV:

AIDS\*

HIV seropositivity\* (confirmed)

T-Helper (CD4+) lymphocyte count\*  
on any person with HIV infection

Animal bites

Anthrax

Aseptic meningitis

**Botulism**

Brucellosis

Chancroid

**Diphtheria**

Encephalitis, post infectious

Encephalitis, primary

Environmental/Occupational Conditions

**Acute chemical poisoning**

Carbon monoxide poisoning

Heavy metal poisoning

(lead, mercury, arsenic, cadmium and other)

**Hyperthermia**

**Hypothermia**

Lead exposure

**Methemoglobinemia**

Occupational lung diseases

### Pesticide poisoning

Respiratory diseases triggered by environmental  
contaminants

**Haemophilus influenzae disease, invasive, including meningitis**

Kawasaki disease

Legionellosis

Leptospirosis

Lyme disease

Malaria

**Measles**

**Meningococcal disease, invasive, including meningitis**

Mumps

**Nosocomial outbreaks**

Pertussis

Plague

**Poliomyelitis**

Psittacosis

**Rabies**

Reye syndrome

Rocky Mountain spotted fever

**Rubella**

Tetanus

Toxic shock syndrome

Tularemia

## SECTION D

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES:

Chancroid

Chlamydia trachomatis infections

Gonorrhea

**Syphilis**

## SECTION E

ENTERIC AND PARASITIC DISEASES AND HEPATITIS A:

Amebiasis

Campylobacter infections

Cholera

E.coli O157:H7

Giardiasis

**Hepatitis A**

Listeria monocytogenes

Salmonella infections

Shigella infections

Trichinosis

**Typhoid fever**

Yersinia enterocolitica

## SECTION F

HEPATITIS:

**Hepatitis A**

Hepatitis B

Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg)  
positive, pregnant women only

Hepatitis non-A, non-B

## SECTION G

TUBERCULOSIS:

TB disease

TB infection

Disease from mycobacteria other than tuberculosis

\* Use Forms CDC 50.42A AND MO 580-1641 for AIDS/HIV.

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

RECORD OF INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE\*

Patient's Name				FOR CODING ONLY			
Address		City		State		Zip Code	
Birth / /	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	Race <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Other		County of Residence			
Parent's Name If Not Adult				Phone			
Hospitalized <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Hospital Name		Date of Onset			
Physician's Name				Phone Number			
Address				Date			
Previous Address (if significant)				Date Moved			
Place Employed or School Attended				Occupation			
Date Reported		How did you first learn of this case?				Date	

Disease \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Confirmed or ☐ Suspected } at beginning of investigation.

Chief Clinical Symptoms with Dates: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Treatment (type, amount, dates): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY TESTS ON PATIENT			
Type of Specimen	Date Collected	Result	Name of Laboratory

Are there other associated cases? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, how many, and how associated? \_\_\_\_\_

Household Sanitation: ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor      Milk Supply \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water Supply \_\_\_\_\_

(Continued on reverse side)

\* Special forms should be used for investigations of Diphtheria (CD 2A), Encephalitis or Meningitis (CD 2B), Enteric Infections (CD 2C), and Foodborne Outbreaks (CD 2D).



Other Pertinent Epidemiological Data (exposure to birds and animals, insect bites, vaccination, travel, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CONTACTS (Household and Other)

Name and Address	Age Sex	Relation to Patient	Similar Illness? Onset Date	Laboratory Specimen	Date Collected	Result

Narrative and Follow-up Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Probable Source \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Recovered    ☐ Died    Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_ Cause of Death \_\_\_\_\_

Investigated by \_\_\_\_\_ Final Diagnosis \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Agency \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_